

Coulomb corrections for Bose-Einstein correlations in whole momentum transfer region: Proposal of seamless fitting

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Abstract

We applied an improved Coulomb correction method developed by us recently to data on identical KK -pairs production in $S + Pb$ and $p + Pb$ reactions at 200 GeV/c obtained by NA44 Collaboration. To analyse the whole range of the momentum transfers measured the method of "seamless fitting" has been proposed and used together with the asymptotic expansion formula for the Coulomb wave function. We found that such Coulomb corrections lead sometimes to different than previously reported (by NA44 Collaboration) interaction region and strongly influence the long range correlations.

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Introduction: Recently NA44 Collaboration has reported their data on the Bose-Einstein correlations (BEC) of $K^\pm K^\pm$ pairs produced in $S + Pb$ and $p + Pb$ reactions at 200 GeV/c [1]. In our previous work [2] we have analysed these data by making use of the various source functions with the long range correlation (without, however, invoking any sort of Coulomb corrections). The data [1] have been corrected for Coulomb interactions by applying only the Gamow factor. As was pointed out some time ago by Bowler this is, however, not sufficient [3]. In our recent works [4, 5] the still improved method of Coulomb corrections was presented but not yet applied to any concrete data set. In the present Letter, we apply it therefore to the analysis of data for $K^\pm K^\pm$ pairs production in $S + Pb$ and $p + Pb$ reactions

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mentioned above (in the whole measured momentum transfer region) and compare our results with those obtained before in [2]. To be able to analyse the whole range of measured momentum transfer Q and to avoid wild oscillations developing at large Q 's (cf. Fig. 1a) we have to use the asymptotic expansion of the Coulomb wave function together with the procedure of "seamless fitting" (SF) explained below (cf. Figs. 1b and 2).

Theoretical formula of BEC with Coulomb wave function: To write down an amplitude A_{12} satisfying Bose-Einstein statistics it is convenient to decompose the wave function of identical (charged in our case) bosons with momenta p_1 and p_2 into the wave function of the center-of-mass system (c.m.) with total momentum $P = \frac{1}{2}(p_1 + p_2)$ and the inner wave function with relative momentum $Q = (p_1 - p_2) = 2q$. It allows us to express A_{12} in terms of the confluent hypergeometric function Φ [7]:

$$\begin{aligned} A_{12} &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} [\Psi(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{r}) + \Psi_S(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{r})], \\ \Psi(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{r}) &= \Gamma(1 + i\eta) e^{-\pi\eta/2} e^{i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{r}} \Phi(-i\eta; 1; iqr(1 - \cos\theta)), \\ \Psi_S(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{r}) &= \Gamma(1 + i\eta) e^{-\pi\eta/2} e^{-i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{r}} \Phi(-i\eta; 1; iqr(1 + \cos\theta)), \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

where $r = x_1 - x_2$ and the parameter $\eta = m\alpha/2q$. Assuming factorization in the source functions, $\rho(r_1, r_2) = \rho(r_1)\rho(r_2) = \rho(R)\rho(r)$ (here $R = \frac{1}{2}(x_1 + x_2)$), one obtains the following expression for theoretical BEC formula [3] including the improved Coulomb correction [5]:

$$\begin{aligned} N^{(\pm\pm)}/N^{\text{BG}} &= \frac{1}{G(q)} \int \rho(R) d^3 R \int \rho(r) d^3 r |A_{12}|^2 \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-i)^n (i)^m}{n+m+1} (2q)^{n+m} I_R(n, m) A_n A_m^* \\ &\times \left[1 + \frac{n!m!}{(n+m)!} \left(1 + \frac{n}{i\eta} \right) \left(1 - \frac{m}{i\eta} \right) \right] \\ &= (1 + \Delta_{1C}) + (\Delta_{EC} + E_{2B}), \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

$$= (1 + \Delta_{1C}) + (\Delta_{EC} + E_{2B}), \quad (3)$$

where $G(q) = 2\pi\eta/(e^{2\pi\eta} - 1)$ denotes Gamow factor and the first and the second parentheses in eq. (3) correspond to the first and the second terms in eq. (2)¹ and

$$I_R(n, m) = 4\pi \int dr r^{2+n+m} \rho(r), \quad A_n = \frac{\Gamma(i\eta + n)}{\Gamma(i\eta)} \frac{1}{(n!)^2}.$$

To analyse data corrected only by the Gamow factor using our formulae we should use the following ratio:

$$\begin{aligned} N^{(\pm\pm:\text{GC})}/N^{\text{BG}}(Q = 2q) &= R_{\text{CC}}/G(q) \\ &= c(1 + \Delta_{1C} + \Delta_{EC}) \left[1 + \lambda \frac{E_{2B}}{1 + \Delta_{1C} + \Delta_{EC}} \right] (1 + \gamma Q). \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

¹For the exact formulae for Δ_{EC} and E_{2B} see [5].

It should be noted that the normalization and an effective degree of coherence, i.e., the denominator of the ratio $E_{2B}/(1 + \Delta_{1C} + \Delta_{EC})$, are related to each other. Notice also that other parameters like the additional normalization factor c , the long range correlation γ and λ are introduced by hand.

Source function: To obtain an explicit expression, we have to decide on some form of the source function. In the present Letter, we shall use the Gaussian source distribution, $\rho(r) = \frac{\beta^3}{\sqrt{\pi^3}} \exp(-\beta^2 r^2)$. For this type of source function we have the following formulae for the elements of eqs. (3) and (4) [5]:

$$I_R^G(n, m) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left(\frac{1}{\beta} \right)^{n+m} (n+m+1) \Gamma\left(\frac{n+m+1}{2}\right), \quad (5)$$

$$E_{2B} = \exp\left(-\frac{q^2}{\beta^2}\right). \quad (6)$$

To analyze data corrected by the Coulomb wave function as was done in [6], we should modify the formula (4) replacing it by the following one:

$$\begin{aligned} N^{(\pm\pm:CC)}/N^{BG}(Q=2q) &= \frac{R_{CC}}{G(q)(1 + \Delta_{1C} + \Delta_{EC})} \\ &= c \left[1 + \lambda \frac{E_{2B}}{1 + \Delta_{1C} + \Delta_{EC}} \right] (1 + \gamma Q). \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

For the sake of reference, we write down here also the conventional formula (i.e., a kind of standard formula without corrections due to the final state interactions):

$$N^{(\pm\pm:Standard)}/N^{BG}(Q=2q) = c[1 + \lambda E_{2B}] (1 + \gamma Q). \quad (8)$$

Asymptotic expansion of the Coulomb wave function: First of all, it should be noted that the expansion in eq. (3) has to be limited to $q_{\text{limit}} (= Q/2)$ only due to mathematical properties of the confluent hypergeometric function used [7]. This can be seen as wild oscillation developing in Fig. 1 (a) where the eq. (4) has been simply used. If we, instead, set the Coulomb correction to zero in the region $q > q_{\text{limit}}$ limit, a small step appears as seen in Fig. 1 (b). Therefore in order to analyse in a consistent way the whole region of the momentum transfer measured we have to use the following asymptotic expansion of the Coulomb wave function:

$$A_{12}^{\text{asym}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} [\Psi^{\text{asym}}(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{r}) + \Psi_S^{\text{asym}}(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{r})], \quad (9)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi^{\text{asym}}(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{r}) &= \exp\{i(qz - \eta \ln(r - z))\} \times \left(1 + \frac{\eta^2}{iq(r - z)} \right) \\ &\quad + f(\theta) \frac{\exp\{i(qr - \eta \ln(2qr))\}}{r}, \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi_S^{\text{asym}}(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{r}) &= \exp\{i(-qz - \eta \ln(r + z))\} \times \left(1 + \frac{\eta^2}{iq(r + z)} \right) \\ &\quad + f(\pi - \theta) \frac{\exp\{i(qr - \eta \ln(2qr))\}}{r}, \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

where $z = r \cos \theta$ and

$$f(\theta) = -\frac{\eta}{2q \sin^2(\theta/2)} \exp\{-2i\eta \ln \sin(\theta/2) + 2i \arg \Gamma(1 + i\eta)\}.$$

In analyses we should assure a smooth connection between both regions of $q = Q/2$. To avoid the divergence of denominators $(1 \pm \cos \theta)$, we have to introduce a cutoff parameter ϵ (of the order of $\epsilon \simeq 10^{-3}$) such that $(1 \pm \cos \theta) > \epsilon$ always². This procedure, shown as a flow chart in fig. 2, is called the “seamless fitting (SF)”.

Analyses of data by SF method: Our results obtained in terms of the new formula (4) are shown in Table I and Figs. 3 and 4. Whereas the parameter γ (representing here the influence of long range correlations) increases now noticeably in comparison with that obtained previously in [4]³, we find that the interaction region represented by $R = 1/2\beta$ remains S + Pb reactions almost the same. Only in $p + \text{Pb}$ collisions the estimated R becomes larger with inclusion of Coulomb correction than that obtained in [4]. These facts suggest that we should be careful in interpreting any data (at least those for kaons) which were corrected for Coulomb interactions only by the Gamow factor.

Concluding remarks: We have proposed the possible method of applying the Coulomb correction for the BEC in the whole region of momentum transfer, the “seamless fitting” (SF). We confirm that this method works well when analysing data corrected only by the Gamow factor.

Our analyses of data of KK pairs in S + Pb reaction [1] shows (cf. Table I) that $R(K^+K^+) = 4$ fm and $R(K^-K^-) = 3$ fm (i.e., they differ substantially), contrary to the estimation provided in [1] that $R(K^\pm K^\pm) \approx 3$ fm. This is an important result for the study of signals of the Quark Gluon Plasma (QGP) (see refs. [2, 4, 8]). Moreover, we found that the long range correlations are strongly affected by Coulomb corrections (most probably because of the long range character of Coulomb interactions).

For the sake of reference, we show also in Table II and Fig. 5 results of our analysis of data for S + Pb $\rightarrow \pi\pi + X$ reaction [6] (which were corrected by the Coulomb wave function method [9]) performed by using both eq. (7) and the “standard” formula (eq. (8)). As one can see there are no significant differences between parameters estimated by means of these two formulae, in particular the magnitude of the interaction region is in both cases almost the same.

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²We have confirmed that the parameter ϵ depends on the magnitude of the interaction region (R).

³This shows that Coulomb corrections can be important in the bigger range of momentum transfers than considered so far and justifies *a posteriori* our present investigation.

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Table I: Parameters of kaonic BEC obtained from S + Pb and p + Pb reactions.

reaction	formula	c	R [fm]	λ	γ	χ^2/NDF
S + Pb \rightarrow $K^+K^+ + X$	standard	0.998 \pm 0.008	3.384 \pm 0.171	1.010 \pm 0.071	—	58.0/33
		1.101 \pm 0.022	3.991 \pm 0.234	0.977 \pm 0.078	-0.420 \pm 0.079	36.8/32
	eq. (4)	0.966 \pm 0.007	3.918 \pm 0.000	0.804 \pm 0.059	—	30.9/33
		0.987 \pm 0.015	4.285 \pm 0.000	0.825 \pm 0.074	-0.071 \pm 0.077	30.9/32
S + Pb \rightarrow $K^-K^- + X$	standard	0.988 \pm 0.021	3.058 \pm 0.285	1.070 \pm 0.142	—	31.9/32
		0.989 \pm 0.066	3.061 \pm 0.345	1.069 \pm 0.159	-0.004 \pm 0.279	31.9/31
	eq. (4)	0.944 \pm 0.017	3.089 \pm 0.000	0.836 \pm 0.111	—	35.0/32
		0.872 \pm 0.048	3.066 \pm 0.012	1.030 \pm 0.178	0.411 \pm 0.277	32.5/31
p + Pb \rightarrow $K^+K^+ + X$	standard	0.989 \pm 0.027	2.134 \pm 0.291	0.636 \pm 0.089	—	34.3/26
		1.149 \pm 0.078	2.698 \pm 0.559	0.493 \pm 0.114	-0.546 \pm 0.237	30.9/25
	eq. (4)	0.975 \pm 0.019	2.731 \pm 0.000	0.520 \pm 0.091	—	32.7/26
		0.996 \pm 0.061	2.310 \pm 0.001	0.431 \pm 0.133	-0.180 \pm 0.256	30.7/25

Figure Captions

Fig. 1. (a) Analyses of data for S + Pb $\rightarrow K^-K^- + X$ reaction by eq. (4). (b) The same but with Coulomb corrections switched off for $q > q_{\text{limit}} = Q/2$ limit. (Results for K^+K^+ pair production

Table II: Parameters of $S + Pb \rightarrow \pi^\pm \pi^\pm + X$ reactions.

formula	c	R [fm]	λ	γ	χ^2/NDF
standard	0.800 ± 0.003	4.506 ± 0.327	0.461 ± 0.042	—	17.5/16
	0.824 ± 0.010	5.015 ± 0.421	0.450 ± 0.044	-0.178 ± 0.065	10.9/15
eq. (7)	0.800 ± 0.003	4.575 ± 0.335	0.509 ± 0.048	—	17.8/16
	0.825 ± 0.010	5.105 ± 0.436	0.502 ± 0.052	-0.180 ± 0.065	11.0/15

looks similar with only change being in the value of q_{limit} which depend on the value of radius parameter R .)

Fig. 2. Flow chart for our procedure of “seamless fitting (SF)”.

Fig. 3. Results of SF for BEC for kaons produced in $S + Pb$ collisions; (a) for K^+K^+ pairs; (b) for K^-K^- pairs.

Fig. 4. Results of SF for BEC for kaons produced in $p + Pb \rightarrow K^-K^- + X$ reaction.

Fig. 5. Results of SF for BEC for pions produced in $S + Pb \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^+ + X$ reaction.

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